

8th Grade UNIT 7 OVERVIEW: Pythagorean Theorem

Unit Outcomes	Key Vocabulary
At the end of this unit, your student should be able to:	Terms to deepen the student's understanding
✓ Explain a proof of the Pythagorean Theorem and its	✓ Base
converse	✓ Exponent
✓ Apply the Pythagorean Theorem to find perimeter and	✓ Hypotenuse
area	✓ Legs
✓ Apply the Pythagorean Theorem in order to find the	✓ Perfect Square
distance between two points.	✓ Pythagorean Theorem
	✓ Pythagorean Triple
	✓ Right Angle
	✓ Right Triangle
	✓ Square Root
Key Standards Addressed	Where This Unit Fits
Connections to Common Core/NC Essential Standards	Connections to prior and future learning
8.NS.2 - Use rational approximations of irrational numbers	Coming into this unit, students should have a strong
to compare the size of irrational numbers, locate them	foundation in:
approximately on a number line diagram, and estimate the	 Solving equations with square roots
value of expressions (e.g., π^2). For example, by truncating	 Estimating irrational numbers
the decimal expansion of $\sqrt{2}$, show that $\sqrt{2}$ is between 1	 Applying the triangle sum theorem and triangle
and 2, then between 1.4 and 1.5, and explain how to	inequality theorem
continue on to get better approximations.	
	This unit builds to the following future skills and
8.EE.2 - Use square root and cube root symbols to	concepts:
represent solutions to equations of the form $x^2 = p$ and	 Solving equations using the Pythagorean Theorem
$x^3 = p$, where p is a rational number.	✓ Using trigonometric ratios and the Pythagorean
	Theorem to solve right triangles in applied
8.G.6 - Explain a proof of the Pythagorean Theorem and its	problems
converse.	
0 < 7 Apply the Dythereorem Theorem to determine	
8.G.7- Apply the Pythagorean Theorem to determine	
unknown side lengths in right triangles in real world and	
mathematical problems in two and three dimensions.	
8.G.8 - Apply the Pythagorean Theorem to find the	
distance between two points in a coordinate system	
distance between two points in a coordinate system	
Additional Resources	"Learning Checks"
Materials to support understanding and enrichment	Questions Parents Can Use to Assess Understanding
✓ Teaching videos made by Wake County teachers	✓ What is the relationship between the sides of a right
✓ WCPSS YouTube Channel – Math Playlist	triangle?
✓ Pythagorean Theorem Overview	✓ What is the significance of using right triangles in the
✓ Pythagorean Theorem Video	real world?
✓ Pythagorean Theorem Practice	✓ Where might you see the Pythagorean Theorem
✓ Pythagorean Theorem Practice 2	outside of school?
	✓ Explain the Pythagorean Theorem

* Please note, the unit guides are a work in progress. If you have feedback or suggestions on improvement, please feel free to contact wakemiddle@wcpss.net.